

REMARKS


This paper is being submitted in response to the Office Action mailed November 8, 2005, for the above-referenced application. In this response, Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 5, 17 and 21 (claims 8-16 having been previously cancelled) without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and amended claims 2-4, 6, 7, 18-20, 22 and 23 to clarify that which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims are fully supported by the originally-filed application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-4, 7, 18-20 and 23 and in claims 6 and 22 pending resolution of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicants have rewritten claims 2-4, 7, 18-20 and 23 into independent form to incorporate the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Further, claims 6 and 22 have been amended in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Office Action to overcome the 112 rejections. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Based on the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections and objections. Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 617-248-4792.

Respectfully submitted,
CHOATE, HALL & STEWART LLP

Date: March 3, 2006



Elijah E. Cocks
Registration No. 47,499

CHOATE, HALL & STEWART LLP
Two International Place
Boston, MA 02110
T: (617) 248-5000
F: (617) 248-4000